

### WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of managing complex litigation tasks by at least one user, comprising:

(1) providing an informational outline which may be necessary to be complete said tasks;

5 (2) querying said at least one user as to the relevance of each of said potential elements and receiving responses to said inquiries,

(3) removing from said informational outline those potential elements indicated by said responses to be not relevant, and

10 (4) generating an informational outline responsive to said task by assembling all said potential elements not removed in step 3.

2. The method of Claim 1, which further includes a step of permitting the at least one user to manually remove said potential elements from said informational outline prior to step 1.

15 3. The method of Claim 1, wherein said method further comprises providing said user with the opportunity to view data relevant to each of said potential elements.

4. The method of Claim 3, wherein said data is segregated and correlated by association of portions thereof relevant to each said potential element with said potential element.

20 5. The method of Claim 3, wherein said data is selected from the group consisting of document images, optical character recognition versions of document images, deposition transcripts, deposition videotapes and mixtures thereof.

6. The method of Claim 1, wherein said method comprises a step of storing data associated with at least one potential element of said task in a local database.

7. The method of Claim 3, wherein said method further comprises the steps of associating notes concerning said data entered by a user with the data and storing said notes correlated with said data and said potential elements.

8. The method of Claim 1, wherein said complex task is one or more tasks pertinent to a patent infringement litigation.

9. The method of Claim 8, wherein said task is the preparation of a complaint for patent infringement.

10. The method of Claim 8, wherein said task is the preparation of an answer to a complaint for patent infringement.

11. The method of Claim 8, wherein said task is the preparation of a complaint seeking declaratory judgment of at least one of patent invalidity, patent unenforceability or non-infringement.

12. The method of Claim 8, wherein said task is the preparation of a counterclaim for patent infringement.

13. The method of Claim 8, wherein said task is the preparation of a litigation strategy for a party to a patent litigation.

14. The method of Claim 8, wherein said task is the preparation of at least a portion of a pleading, motion or other paper to be filed in a court on behalf of a party to a patent litigation.

15. The method of Claim 8, wherein said task is the completion of at least part of a document prepared in connection with said patent litigation which is not to be filed in court.

16. The method of Claim 15, wherein said document is a privilege log.

17. The method of Claim 1, wherein said user is provided with a reference database which comprises the body of at least one Statute, Rule, Code, advisory text, reference text, constitution or treaty, which can be queried in the course of completion of said complex litigation task.

5        18. The method of Claim 17, wherein said reference database comprises at least one of the group consisting of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Title 28 of the United States Code, Title 35 of the United States Code, Chapter 37 of the Code of Federal Regulations, the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, Black's Law Dictionary, the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the Federal Rules of Evidence, the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure, the  
10       Manual of Complex Litigation, Chisum on Patents and Local Rules of the United States District Courts.

19. The method of Claim 3, wherein at least some of said data is maintained on an accessible storage device, selected from the group consisting of the personal computer, a lap-top computer, a networked server and an internet accessible server.

15       20. The method of Claim 1, wherein said steps of providing, inquiring and receiving responses are effected by receiving output from a computing device and said at least one user generating signals rendered intelligible to said computing device responsive to said output and inputting said signals to said computing device.

20       21. The method of Claim 20, wherein said signals intelligible to said computing device are produced by use of at least one of a pointing device, an electronic screen on which information may be portrayed, a keyboard, a microphone and an interface with a second computing device.